

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/001300

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F16C11/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 F16C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 198 12 627 A (BAYERISCHE MOTOREN WERKE AG) 30 September 1999 (1999-09-30) figure 2	1-9
X	GB 1 005 682 A (AUTOMOTIVE PROD CO LTD) 29 September 1965 (1965-09-29) figure 3	1-9
X	DE 39 24 003 A (MUSASHI SEIMITSU KOGYO KK) 22 November 1990 (1990-11-22) figure 1	1-3, 5, 7-9
X	EP 1 114 938 A (MINEBEA KK) 11 July 2001 (2001-07-11) figure 1	1-6, 8, 9

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/07/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Haukonen, K

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/GB2004/001300

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
DE 19812627	A	30-09-1999	DE	19812627 A1	30-09-1999
GB 1005682	A	29-09-1965	FR	1390714 A	26-02-1965
DE 3924003	A	22-11-1990	JP	2304210 A	18-12-1990
			DE	3924003 A1	22-11-1990
			GB	2231914 A	28-11-1990
EP 1114938	A	11-07-2001	JP	2001193735 A	17-07-2001
			EP	1114938 A1	11-07-2001
			SG	88787 A1	21-05-2002
			US	6325544 B1	04-12-2001